

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOME ENERGY GENERATION ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Home Energy Generation Act, which will benefit individuals and small business owners who are currently producing their own energy, or wish to do so in the future. This legislation is a necessary incentive to help increase the use of environmentally sustainable technologies, and give Americans the independence and self-sufficiency they deserve.

The Home Energy Generation Act is a comprehensive "net metering" bill, which enables individuals who generate electricity using fuel cells or renewables such as wind, solar, or biomass, to receive credit for the surplus electricity they put back into the electricity grid. Credit for their excess energy generation is realized by allowing their electricity meter to literally run backwards when their energy unit is generating more energy than their household, farm, or small business is consuming.

In addition to net metering, the Home Energy Generation Act addresses many other barriers which can prevent Americans from generating their own electricity. This bill sets uniform national reliability and safety standards for interconnection of electricity generation units into the electricity grid, by utilizing private professional organizations. National standards are absolutely imperative to the development of reliable and affordable technology to interconnect. (It was national standards that allowed multiple companies, and consequently multiple technologies to interconnect into the once monopolized AT&T telephone system.)

The Home Energy Generation Act also allows retail electricity suppliers and utilities to count home energy generation capacity amongst their customers towards any renewable portfolio requirements.

This bill will function in the current electricity industry legislative structure, or in a deregulated electricity industry. It gives families, farms, and small businesses the same right as industrial generators by allowing home generators to sell their end of the year energy credit on the open market. Under a restructured industry, this will likely create a market for home generated power.

Although net metering is now allowed in 30 states, federal legislation is needed to create the national interconnectivity standards necessary to allow for safe and reliable interconnection, as well as to allow home generation industries to cost-effectively produce these technologies. In addition, this legislation is needed to resolve any uncertainty regarding state and local authority to implement net metering, since a state court has recently ruled that net metering requires explicit federal authority. This bill will provide that authority.

This bill is truly a bipartisan effort. It has been an honor for me to work with Both Congressmen ROSCOE BARTLETT of Maryland, and VERNON EHLERS of Michigan. In addition to these distinguished members, I would also like to thank the following original cosponsors to this important legislation: Mr. BRIAN BAIRD of Washington, Mr. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT of New York, Mr. EARL BLUMENAUER of Oregon, Mr. MERRILL COOK of Utah, Mr. PETER DEFazio of Oregon, Mr. NORMAN DICKS of Washington, Mr. LANE EVANS of Illinois, Mr. SAM FARR of California, Mr. BOB FILNER of California, Mr. MARTIN FROST of Texas, Mr. BENJAMIN GILMAN of New York, Mr. LUIS GUTIERREZ of Illinois, Mr. MAURICE HINCHEY of New York, Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. JAMES LEACH of Iowa, Mr. JOHN LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. JIM MCDERMOTT of Washington, Mr. JACK METCALF of Washington, Ms. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD of California, Ms. NANCY PELOSI of California, Mr. TED STRICKLAND of Ohio, Mr. MARK UDALL of Colorado, Mr. TOM UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. ROBERT UNDERWOOD of Guam, and Mr. BRUCE VENTO of Minnesota.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following groups who have been so helpful in crafting this legislation. They include the Solar Energy Industry Association, American Wind Energy Industry Association, public utilities, private investor owned utilities, fuel cell advocates, and various consumer groups.

I urge my colleagues to join me by cosponsoring the Home Energy Generation Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I was very surprised to see my vote in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on H.R. 2490, Treasury Postal Appropriations. I am certain I intended to vote "no" and did, in fact, vote "no," yet the RECORD reflects a vote of "aye" on my part. Therefore, I enter this statement into the RECORD to reflect the error that has been made with respect to this vote.

Please note that I have filed resolutions of disapproval with regard to pay raises for Members, and I have consistently voted against legislation providing for such increases.

CALVERT ALLIANCE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE: 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Calvert Alliance Against Sub-

stance Abuse, Inc., or CAASA, in celebrating its 10th Anniversary. CAASA, an organization which aims to fight substance abuse, has become a key player in reducing alcohol and drug abuse across Calvert County, Maryland. I commend CAASA for its starting as a grassroots drug prevention efforts.

It is imperative that youth are taught the dangers of drugs and alcohol at an early age. CAASA's sponsorship of numerous community activities geared towards children has encouraged them to steer away from drugs. Their support of various activities such as DARE, Just Say No Clubs, the Haunted Crack House, and many other programs have helped to keep many of the youth of Calvert County drug-free and out of trouble. By providing more school-based substance abuse programs, they have given these children alternatives to drug use.

Without the full support of the government and local communities, CAASA could not have enjoyed ten years of success. I would like to recognize community members, schools, civic and service organizations, religious groups, businesses, public agencies, and the county government for their continuous support of CAASA. This valuable partnership has enabled CAASA to reduce alcohol and drug abuse through public awareness, education, treatment, and law enforcement.

Alcohol and drug use remains a problem in both rural and urban communities across the Nation. Calvert County is fortunate to have such a valuable resource. I congratulate CAASA on 10 years of service and wish it all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF KHALSA PANTH'S BIRTH

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Khalsa Panth's 300th birth anniversary. Khalsa Panth was born April 13, 1699 and is a figure of the Sikh community.

The purpose of founding the Khalsa was to spread righteousness and to uproot the repression and injustice; to create love and harmony amongst humankind and to end evil hatred. Khalsa stands for gender equality; to instill self-confidence; to live a humble life with self-respect and serve the society as its honorable Sant Sipahi.

The guidelines to the Sikh religion are as follows: Sikh's must have honest earnings, worship only one god, and share with the needy. They may only perform Sikh religious ceremonies and should meditate on God's name everyday. Sikh's must not commit any one of the four misdeeds: cutting or shaving of the hair, drinking alcohol, using any intoxicant, and using adultery. Sikh's must give service to the religious congregation without expecting

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

anything in return. They must not worship idols, graves and mortals. Sikh's must always be ready to defend the weak and fight for justice and freedom.

There are five symbols that have both practical and spiritual meaning for the Sikh's. Unshorn hair means moral and spiritual strength. A wooden comb is to keep the hair neat and tidy. The Sikh must always wear a turban and women must keep their heads covered with traditional heading or a turban. An Iron bracelet reminds a Sikh that he must keep himself away from bad deeds. Special tailored shorts remind a Sikh that he is not to indulge in adultery. A sword on the person of an Amrithdardi Sikh represents freedom. Last is political sovereignty. This reminds a Sikh of his duty to stand for truth, justice and righteousness.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Khalsa Panth's 300th birth anniversary. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Sikh community many more years of continued success and happiness.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY MARKS THE TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRACY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their forthcoming 88th National Day. The people of Taiwan on October 10, 1999 will commemorate the anniversary of the 1911 revolution in China, which marks the ousting of the last imperial dynasty and beginnings of the Republic of China under the leadership of Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

As we celebrate the 88th anniversary of the Republic of China's triumph as a democratically free and economically prosperous nation state, it is becoming of us to pay tribute to leadership and heroic efforts of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. The courage and determination of the Chinese people in Taiwan, to act as architects of their own ambitions and choose their own destiny, serves as a profound inspiration to the freedom-loving people around the world. The success of the Chinese people stands strong as a model for emerging nations in Asia and the Pacific Rim.

Let this be a celebration of the outstanding successes people can achieve when they are free to exercise their rights, when they can aspire to greater heights, which they can pursue what they desire for themselves, their families and their nation. As the delegate from Guam, I recognize the fact that the island and people I represent share deep cultural and historical ties with Taiwan. As the closest American community to Taiwan, we, the people of Guam, feel especially proud of our relationship and wish them all the best on their celebration of National Day. The strong ties between the Taiwanese people and the people of Guam are longstanding. Whether as visitors or as new neighbors, the historical, economic and cultural traditions that exist between our peoples have cultivated a unique relationship. Toward that end, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the work of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam under the

Director General Leo Chenjan Lee. Through his capable hands, the Taiwan-Guam relationship is sure to yield even greater fruit and blossom ever brighter in the future. Let us, as a Nation, reaffirm our support as a vital trading partner and as a partner in democracy with Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my most profound congratulations to Taiwan and President Lee Teng Hui on their celebration of National Day and on their continuous economic and democratic successes. It is altogether proper and fitting that we extend our prayers and remembrances, on behalf of the people of Guam, to all those who perished in the recent earthquake in Taiwan. May both the people of Guam and Taiwan continue to draw inspiration from one another and prosper long into the next millennium.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1059, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Chairman SPENCE for all of his hard work on this bill. His time and commitment is appreciated by me and this entire Congress.

The reason I am before you is to discuss the ability of State and local governments to carry out their legitimate environmental, safety, and health oversight authority under the newly formed National Nuclear Security Administration, as set forth in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, the State of Nevada is among several states that house nuclear weapons production and/or testing facilities. Nevada is in fact home to the Nevada Test Site. A unique national resource, the Nevada Test Site is a massive outdoor laboratory and national experimental center that is larger than the state of Rhode Island.

Established as the Atomic Energy Commission's on-continent proving ground, the Nevada Test Site has seen more than four decades of nuclear weapons testing. Since the nuclear weapons testing moratorium in 1992, and under the direction of the Department of Energy (DOE), test site use has diversified into many other programs such as hazardous chemical spill testing, emergency response training, conventional weapons testing, and waste management and environmental technology studies.

Mr. Speaker, the states that house our nation's nuclear weapons testing facilities, including my home state of Nevada, will be subject to the DOE re-organization provisions in this bill. Our efforts to protect the oversight rights of these states is paramount.

Mr. Speaker, the citizens of Nevada need your assurance that nothing in Title 32 of this bill, relating to the National Nuclear Security Administration, is intended to limit, modify, affect, or otherwise change any local, state or federal environmental, safety or health law, including any waiver of federal sovereign immunity in any such federal law, or any obligation of the Administration or the Department to comply with any such local, state or federal law.

Again, I would like to thank Chairman SPENCE for his work on this bill and I appreciate his willingness to work with me on this very important issue.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE PRESENTATION OF "THE GOLD- EN MOMENT," AN ICE SKATING EXTRAVAGANZA, PRESENTED BY THE KRISTI YAMAGUCHI AL- WAYS DREAM FOUNDATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation, which is headquartered in Oakland, CA, on its September 18, 1999 presentation of an ice skating extravaganza, "The Golden Moment." This presentation will serve as a fundraiser for the Foundation in support of its efforts to help in the fight against breast cancer. Kristi Yamaguchi created the Always Dream Foundation to inspire and embrace the hopes and dreams of children and help them fulfill their dreams.

Since its incorporation in 1996, The Always Dream Foundation has provided substantive support to organizations that have a positive influence on children. The Foundation's motto, "Always Dream," has served as the personal inspiration for Kristi Yamaguchi for many years, and has served as a constant reminder to dream big and never lose sight of her goals. Her dreams and accomplishments have been fulfilled as a direct result of her family's nurturing and love. The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation and Mervyn's California are presenting "A Golden Moment" figure skating concert on ice, accompanied live in-concert by the Oakland East Bay Symphony. This unique performance will be dedicated to helping make strides to overcome breast cancer.

I commend The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation for its diligence and perseverance in garnering the resources necessary to enrich and uplift the lives of the youth of this nation and the world. It has been through the Foundation's perseverance that it has garnered the resources necessary to support the struggle to overcome the ravages of breast cancer.

I wish to extend to The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation, its staff, donors, and volunteers sincere best wishes for success as they present "A Golden Moment" ice skating extravaganza to the citizens of Oakland and Alameda County.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LAS CIENEGAS NATIONAL CONSERVA- TION AREA ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce legislation creating the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (Las

Cienegas National Conservation Area Establishment Act of 1999). Las Cienegas is Spanish for marshes or bogs. In the Southwest desert, water is a treasured commodity. A cienega is even more precious and rare. This essential resource—water—is becoming increasingly difficult to manage because of the changes we see in the region. This legislation takes a large step to provide positive management. It establishes a national conservation area in the Cienega Creek and Babocomari River watersheds located in southern Arizona. The NCA will conserve, protect, and enhance various resources and values while allowing environmentally responsible and sustainable livestock grazing and recreation.

Congressionally designated National Conservation areas (NCAs) have developed through the years as a method to protect and manage special areas that do not fit neatly into a traditional designation, such as wilderness. The NCA designation allows for flexible and creative management strategies for a resource area, while a designation of wilderness mandates a management structure set out in law. Therefore, an NCA is useful when there is a need to accomplish two objectives: (1) permanence to a management strategy, which is usually a compromise by all the stakeholders; and (2) flexibility to stipulate special management practices.

In 1995, the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership (SVPP) was formed to work on public lands issues in the Empire-Cienega Resources Conservation Area, which the BLM established in 1988. The Partnership is comprised of various stakeholders, such as hiking clubs, conservation organizations, grazing and mining interests, off-highway vehicle clubs, mountain bike clubs, as well as Federal, State, and county governments. The SVPP has developed a collaborative management plan for these lands, and an NCA designation would give this plan's objectives permanence and assure implementation.

The Las Cienegas National Conservation Area Establishment Act would save a large tract of land significant for preserving a cross-section of plants and wildlife. The NCA would provide corridors for animal movements that are necessary for the long-term viability of important species. Two of southern Arizona's perennial streams, the Cienega Creek and the Babocomari River, would be protected, ensuring a long-term, sustainable riparian area. However, the NCA designation also retains these lands for human use. Ranching and recreation are integral parts of this conservation area, and the proposed legislations states this clearly.

The core of this NCA designation is the management plan, which must be based on the SVPP land use management plan. The plan will include several key elements: A program for interpretation and public education; a proposal for needed administrative and public facilities; a cultural resources management strategy prepared in consultation with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer; a wildlife management strategy prepared in consultation with Arizona's Game and Fish Department; a production livestock grazing management strategy drafted in consultation with the State Land department; a strategy for recreation management including motorized and nonmotorized recreation, formulated in consultation with the State; and a cave resources management strategy.

Another key component of the proposed legislation is the acquisition of land. This proposal reaffirms the principle of maintaining private property in Arizona, currently only 17.7 percent of the State, while providing the flexibility needed to include state lands in management strategies. Under this proposed bill, private land can be acquired only through donation, exchange, or conservation easements. To further ensure that Arizona's privately held lands will not be diminished, the proposed legislation specifically states that an exchange must not "reduce the tax base within the State of Arizona." In addition, conservation easements are given a priority, and any activity related to private lands must be done with the consent of the owner.

This bill has been drafted by the people who live and work in this area, and I am honored to introduce this bill for them and for future generations of Arizonans. The Las Cienegas National Conservation Area Establishment Act is proof positive that people with seemingly different objectives can work together and find a large expanse of common ground. This bill supported by ranchers and environmentalists, both understanding that they want the same thing—a beautiful and vibrant southern Arizona.

THE SENIORS MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. NATHAN DEAL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce Seniors Mental Health Access Improvement Act of 1999. I urge support of this important legislation to address the mental health needs of our nation's elderly population.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), nearly 2 million Americans over the age of 65 suffer from depression. Timely and appropriate access to mental health services is a critical component in depression treatment and suicide prevention. Unfortunately, many of those two million older Americans do not have access to appropriate mental health services or, if they do have access, the mental health provider available to them is not covered by the Medicare program.

Failure to treat depression has devastating consequences. It is a national tragedy that one of the highest rates of suicide in the United States is found in white males over the age of 85. Depression is treatable and suicide preventable if we make mental health services more readily available to the Medicare population. The legislation Representative STRICKLAND and I introduce today is an important step in the battle to improve mental health services access for older Americans.

The Seniors Mental Health Access Improvement Act would authorize Medicare Part B coverage of marriage and family therapists (MFTs). For many years, the Federal Government has recognized a core group of mental health providers. The five groups of professionals are: psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, psychiatric nurses, and marriage and family therapists.

When assessing the availability of mental health services, the Federal Office of Shortage

Designation (OSD) determines the availability of each one of these health professionals when determining whether a community should be considered a Mental Health Professional Shortage Area. According to OSD, nearly 50 million Americans currently reside in areas designated by the Federal Government as a Mental Health Professional Shortage Area.

Unfortunately, while many older Americans may live in an area the Federal Government has determined to have an adequate supply of mental health professionals, the reality may be something quite different. You see, Mr. Speaker, of the five core mental professionals I mentioned earlier, all but one are covered by the Medicare program. Marriage and family therapists are the only mental health professional not recognized by Medicare.

The Seniors Mental Health Access and Improvement Act seeks to correct this oversight. Many may hold a common misconception that marriage and family therapists only deal with marital strife or family communication problems. In fact, like psychologists and social workers, marriage and family therapists provide a full range of mental health services. When you examine the state laws governing social workers and marriage and family therapists, my colleagues will find that the education and training criteria for licensure as a social worker is often identical to the requirements for licensure and certification as a marriage and family therapist. In other words, like social workers, marriage and family therapists are educated and trained to diagnose and treat those mental disorders and services currently covered by the Medical program.

Currently, 42 states license or certify marriage and family therapists, and legislation is either pending or anticipated in the remaining 8 states. In each of these states, the standards of licensure or certification are virtually identical to the standards for licensure or certification as a social worker: possession of a Master's degree or Ph.D. from a recognized program for marriage and family therapy or a related field and at least two years of supervised clinical experience in marriage and family therapy. In the 8 states where licensure or certification has not been achieved, MFTs are able to practice if they are eligible for clinical membership in the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy which is the national certifying body for marriage and family therapists.

Although the name might suggest that the scope of services MFTs provide would be limited to problems arising due to marriage, their title merely refers to the context in which they treat common mental disorders. For example, research has shown that one of the greatest risk factors for depression is family stressors. In addition, the likelihood of relapse is more likely when family stressors are not addressed in treatment. MFTs treat the individual in the context of their spousal and family relationships. Such as approach not only affords the provider a better context in which to deal with the underlying problem, but increases the likelihood for a successful outcome.

I want to make it clear to my colleagues that the proposal we are putting forward today does not expand the scope of mental health services currently available to Medicare beneficiaries. Our proposal would simply state that when a marriage and family therapist provides a mental health service to a Medicare

beneficiary that is covered by Medicare when provided by a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker or psychiatric nurse, then the same service is covered if provided by a marriage and family therapist. Equally important, when the marriage and family therapist provides a covered service to a Medicare beneficiary, the fee paid shall be 75% of what has been paid by Medicare had the service been provided by a psychiatrist or psychologist.

Our proposal, Mr. Speaker, is modeled after earlier laws passed by Congress relating to Medicare coverage of mental health services provided by psychologists and social workers. Individuals must meet certain minimum educational standards, as well as compete clinical experience requirements and be licensed or certified by the state as a marriage and family therapist. In the event the individual provides services in a state that does not license MFTs, the therapist would be required to meet equal education and experience qualifications, adhere to standards determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and be eligible for clinical membership in the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

Mr. Speaker, I suspect that many of my colleagues would be surprised to learn that much of their Congressional Districts may be considered Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas by the federal government. Indeed, in my own rural district, all 20 counties are considered Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas.

The time has come to correct the oversight in the Medicare law and treat marriage and family therapists the same way we treat other mental health professionals. Millions of Medicare beneficiaries could benefit from being able to receive their covered mental health services from a marriage and family therapist. Equally important, I believe the Medicare program could benefit by covering these individuals. We have an opportunity to make an investment to improve access to mental health services for the Medicare population. Failure to make this investment now could result in far higher Medicare expenditures in the future, but more importantly, many mental disorders that could have been successfully handled by a marriage and family therapist will go untreated. If this is allowed to happen, the human toll, as well as the financial toll, will steadily increase.

I welcome my colleagues' support for this important legislation, and I look forward to working with both the Commerce and Ways and Means Committees to secure the bills' adoption.

TRIBUTE TO EVELYN PRINCE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful young woman, Evelyn Prince, who was tragically taken from us last week. Many of us here in the House of Representatives had the opportunity to meet Evelyn when she served with great pride and enthusiasm as a Congressional Page. I was honored to say she was "our page" from back home in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The head of the Kalamazoo Close Up Program, Gerhard Fuerst, where Evelyn served as President from 1997–1999, described her simply as a "sheer joy." He encouraged her to continue setting and meeting her own great expectations of herself, including participation in the Page program. He shared with me recently an article she wrote upon returning from Washington, DC. In the article, Evelyn encourages and challenges fellow students, as she so loved to do, to get involved in "observing the inner works of government" and to "have fun while learning!"

After she completed the Page program, Evelyn traveled to Wolfsburg, Germany. There she was staying with a family as an exchange student as part of the Youth for Understanding program. It is there, too, that she met with the harsh fate of an automobile accident she did not survive.

Evelyn is remembered today as a talented and spirited 17-year-old. She was a dedicated student, earning straight-As and looking forward to attending college next year. But while she was focused on excelling at school, it is as a loyal friend and loving daughter and sister that she will be so sorely missed.

Evelyn's family shared her sense of adventure and her dreams for the future. Their lives were enriched immeasurably by her presence and are undoubtedly altered immeasurably by her absence. With a young person as talented, exuberant and ambitious the sky was the limit. Sadly, we will never know how far she could have soared with a long life. But we thank God for the contributions she made, the people she inspired and the happiness she created in her all too short life. I close with a poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay:

My candle burns at both ends: It will not last the night;
But, ah, my foes, and oh, my friends,
It gives a lovely light.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues here in Congress to join me in extending our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Evelyn Prince. All members of the Congressional family send our thoughts and prayers especially to Evelyn's parents, DeeAnn and Charles "Skip" Prince, and her sister Lauren.

Evelyn was indeed a rising star whose lovely light still shines on the many people she touched.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1059, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my strong support for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, S. 1059, which includes the authorization of funds for the upgrade of Army weapon systems. I rise today to address the concern that the \$3.5 million increase, which was contained in the House-passed Fiscal Year 2000 Defense Authorization Bill for software and hardware upgrades to Improved Moving Target Simulators was inadvertently dropped from the Conference Report on S. 1059, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal

Year 2000 due to an administrative error. The conferees intended to authorize this increase. It should be included in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2000.

THE VETERANS MILLENNIUM HEALTH CARE ACT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concerns with an item contained in H.R. 2116, the Veterans Millennium Health Care Act, which passed the House last Tuesday with overwhelming support.

Let me first say that I voted in favor of this bill, and believe its passage was long overdue. This bill ensures the continuation of vital healthcare services for our Nation's veterans into the next century by reforming many aspects of delivery and support services.

The veterans who have so bravely served each and every one of us deserve our highest respect and they deserve a Federal Government that lives up to its commitment to them. With the aging of our veteran population, there is a greater need for long-term care, and this bill sends a strong message that America is prepared to live up to that commitment by expanding these services.

Unfortunately, there is one concept contained in this legislation which I oppose. The Veterans Tobacco Trust fund, contained in section 203 of the bill, requires that a certain percentage of any proceeds recovered from tobacco manufacturers, as a result of a U.S. Government lawsuit, be transferred to a special account within the Treasury to treat smoking-related illnesses for veterans. While I support the Federal Government providing adequate resources to the VA to combat and treat smoking-related or any other illnesses, this language legitimizes Federal lawsuits against tobacco companies. That is wrong.

As we saw yesterday, the Justice Department finally unleashed its forces on tobacco by filing a suit in U.S. court, seeking to recover billions in health-related costs to the government. The administration is proceeding with a politically motivated, and legally suspect, attack on a private industry that manufactures and sells legal products. If successful, this action will further damage the farm economies of Kentucky and other States.

I believe it is hypocritical for the Department to propose spending millions of taxpayer dollars trying to develop a legal basis for yet another lawsuit. After all, the Federal Government has earned billions of dollars on the sale of tobacco, through Federal excise taxes, and warned the public about the risks of smoking through labels for decades. It also is hypocritical for this body to pass an appropriations bill that denies funding for a tobacco lawsuit, to then turn around and set up a trust fund in anticipation of receiving proceeds from one.

Section 203 is unnecessary for achieving the objective of improving veterans' health care. It also can be interpreted to implicitly encourage civil actions by the Federal Government made against private industries, including, but not limited to, tobacco related products.

I hope that during the further consideration of H.R. 2116, the House and the other body will agree to omit section 203 from the bill.

TRIBUTE TO A HERO: JASON
SHRADER

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor a young man in my district. Last year, one of my constituents in Ormond Beach, Florida, risked his own life to save another man's life.

Jason Shrader was only 15 years old in May 1998 and just a freshman at Seabreeze High School when he rescued 40 year old Edward Skelton from drowning. Skelton and his girlfriend had gone swimming at the Division Avenue shell pit, a popular swimming hole, when he blacked out and went under. Jason, who was sitting on the shore with his friends, did not think twice before he dove in to search for Skelton.

As Jason himself so movingly described it, "I was scared that either I was going to die trying to save him or he was going to die before I could get him to safety. I grabbed his foot and pulled him to the surface. He had turned blue from lack of oxygen, the cold water, and being at a depth of fifteen feet of water."

Fortunately for Mr. Skelton, Jason is a Boy Scout—an experience that taught him how to perform CPR, and allowed him to keep Mr. Skelton alive until paramedics arrived.

Too often we are too busy with our own lives to think about the people around us whom we may not know. Jason's selfless and heroic action reminds us that sometimes it is important to get involved and to do something. As the Bible says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

Jason is truly a role model for all of us and I commend him for his courage and bravery in the fact of such a frightening and dangerous situation. The Coast Guard has issued a special award to recognize Jason's actions, awarding him the Meritorious Public Service Award. I wish to add my congratulations and applause for Jason Shrader, as he represents the definition of a true hero.

HONORING KSEE 24 HISPANIC-
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
HONOREES

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Hon. Jane Cardoza, Pilar De La Cruz, Gabriel Escalera, Frank C. Franco, and Dr. Cecilio Orozco for being selected as the 1999 Portraits of Success program honorees by KSEE 24 and Companies that Care. In celebration Hispanic-American Heritage Month for September, these five leaders were honored for their unique contributions to the betterment of their community.

KSEE 24 and Companies that Care launched the 1999 Portraits of Success program to honor five distinguished local leaders in celebration of Hispanic-American Heritage month. Currently in its fifth year, this special

project combines specially produced public service announcements, a five-part news series, plus an awards luncheon to publicly recognize the unique contributions of the Hon. Jane Cardoza, Pilar de la Cruz, Gabriel Escalera, Frank C. Franco and Dr. Cecilio Orozco.

Since graduating from law school in 1981, Judge Cardoza started her law career in the Fresno County District Attorney's office, proceeding to the offices of the Fresno City Attorney and State Attorney General, Fresno County Municipal Court and now is the Presiding Judge of Family Law for the Fresno County Superior Court. She is active in the San Joaquin College of Law Board of Trustees, the Fresno Metropolitan Museum Board of Trustees, Fresno Metropolitan Rotary, Fresno City College Puente Project Mentoring Program and Domestic Violence Roundtable.

Pilar de la Cruz began her nursing career in 1969 at Fresno Community Hospital and has moved up the corporate ladder to become vice-president of Education Department at Fresno Community. She has been instrumental in the development of the Jefferson Job Institute, a program to provide training for parents of school children for entry-level jobs in hospital settings. Ms. De la Cruz was named 1998 Volunteer of the Year by the American Health Association and 1997 RN of the Year by the Central Valley Coalition of Nursing Organizations. She received the Latina Beyond Boundaries Award in Healthcare for 1998.

Gabriel Escalera has been in the field of education for 27 years, as principal of Alta Sierra Intermediate School for five years and is the principal of Gateway High School. His college major was physical education; played football for San Diego State and was an athletic director and coached football and wrestling for 12 years. Mr. Escalera is president of the Fresno chapter of the Association of Mexican-American Educators and is also president of the Fresno chapter of ACSA. He is a member of the Latino Educational Issues Roundtable and numerous professional and service organizations.

Mr. Franco is Business Development Manager for the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission and has been with the Commission for 16 years. He is Chairperson of the Board of the Metropolitan Flood Control District which is instrumental in developing new parks, is past president and board member of Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Franco enjoys working for the benefit of children and serves as a board member for Genesis, Inc., a group home for girls that also provides substance abuse counseling for women.

Dr. Orozco is Professor Emeritus at CSUF's School of Education. In 1980 in Utah he discovered the origins of the Nahaatl people, the ancestors of the Anasazi and Aztecs, and has repeatedly visited the sites. One of his proudest accomplishments was proposing the name of Miguel Hidalgo Elementary School which was the first school in Fresno to be named for a Hispanic, and this effort was partially responsible for his receiving the National Association for Bilingual Education's "Pioneer In Bilingual Education Medal" in 1997. Dr. Orozco published a book explaining the details of the Sun Stone of the Mexicas and the Aztec Calendar and in 1998 published (in Spanish) the essence of his research on the work of Lic. Al-

fonso Rivas Salmon which dealt with the origins of the Nahuatl people.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the contributions of Judge Jane Cardoza, Pilar De La Cruz, RN, Gabriel Escalera, Frank C. Franco, and Dr. Cecilio Orozco for the month of September, Hispanic-American Heritage Month. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these honorees many more years of continued success.

H.R. 2684, VA-HUD
APPROPRIATIONS

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, it is our duty to fulfill our promises to our nation's veterans, the men and women who have put themselves in harm's way in service to their country. It is our duty to care for our veterans, and if we pass this legislation, we will fail miserably.

We are faced today with a bill that fails to deliver to our veterans the funding they so desperately need. If we pass this bill, we will only be perpetuating the failure of the President's severely lacking budget. Even though this bill would provide \$1.7 billion more than the President's request, it is still not nearly enough. Two wrongs do not make a right, and if we pass this legislation our veterans will be wronged yet again, by Congress as well as the Administration.

The Republican leadership would have you believe that the Independent Budget submitted by the veterans themselves is bloated and overstates the funding needs for veterans programs. I reject this assertion completely and am horrified that the Republicans are alleging double-counting and padding of budget estimates by respected veterans' groups such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, and Paralyzed Veterans of America.

As if these allegations were not enough, the Republican leadership is now touting this anemic bill as a cause for celebration and criticizing veterans for "complaining" when they fail to celebrate over a bill that is lacking over one billion in critically needed funds. The Republicans have resorted to these tactics against veterans who fought to preserve the prosperity of this country—the prosperity in which veterans will not share if this bill is passed. These accusations are a slap in the face to our veterans and add insult to injury.

As a strong supporter of our nation's veterans, I am forced today to vote against this bill due to its severe lack of funding for veterans' programs. Veterans groups agree that this bill falls short by at least \$1.1 billion. In light of projected budget surpluses and an irresponsible trillion dollar tax cut, it is especially disappointing to see the men and women who have served this country overlooked by those who would rather squander the surplus recklessly than use it to secure the future of critical programs such as veterans benefits and Social Security and reduction of our growing national debt.

Our veterans are aging, and their medical needs are growing as a result. This bill, however, does not address those needs. The number of VA medical facilities has decreased

almost 35% in the last ten years, but this bill fails to address the growing demand for VA services as a result of the increasing number of veterans over the age of 65. According to the Congressional Research Service, 36% of all veterans are over the age of 65, and that number is expected to increase exponentially over the next eight years. An aging veterans population will undoubtedly put a strain on our nation's Veterans Health Services. At the current pace of construction, we will not have the necessary facilities to meet veterans' extended care needs.

Faced with this reality, I am unable to vote for a bill that will short-change veterans by over a billion dollars while Republicans insist on robbing Social Security and sacrificing veterans' healthcare, in favor of squandering the surplus on fiscally irresponsible tax cuts.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Palos Verdes Estates. Palos Verdes Estates is currently celebrating its 60th year as an incorporated city. Situated along the Pacific coastline, the City of Palos Verdes Estates is a spacious community that has changed little since its establishment.

Incorporated December 20, 1939, Palos Verdes Estates is the oldest of the four cities on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The land was first developed in the early 1920's by Frank A. Vandellip, a wealthy New York City financier. Vandellip envisioned a coastal community that preserved and highlighted its natural resources, one that blended in with the surrounding environment. He commissioned the Olmsted Brothers, the sons of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., who designed Central Park in New York City, to lay out and develop the community.

The great care and pains that they took in designing the community are still apparent today. They set aside 28 percent of the land to be permanent open space. In today's age of environmental awareness, the need for open space has become more prevalent. Vandellip and the Olmsted Brothers recognized the value of natural resources and had the foresight and vision to preserve the land for future generations to enjoy.

Palos Verdes Estates has thrived over the last 60 years, and as we enter the 21st century, Palos Verdes Estates will continue to be the unique, scenic community of the South Bay. I congratulate the City of Palos Verdes Estates and its residents on this milestone.

MIN MATHESON HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to bring the remarkable life of Mrs. Min Matheson to the at-

tention of my colleagues. On September 24, the people of the Wyoming Valley will pay a long overdue tribute to Min, as a historical marker is dedicated to her on the Public Square in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. I am pleased and proud to join in this historic tribute.

One of eight children, Min Lurye was born in Chicago in 1909. Her father, a Jewish immigrant, was a cigar maker and a militant labor leader. Min grew up in a household of radical labor meetings, with her father organizing rallies and strikes within the cigar industry. Max Lurye fought organized crime and big business at the same time, once even having a confrontation with Al Capone. Min's childhood occurred in an atmosphere of violence and fear in the labor movements as her father saw some of close friends killed for resisting mob control of the industry. Max's legacy was continued by both his daughter Min and son Will, who also dedicated his life to labor causes.

When she was nineteen, Min met and fell in love with Bill Matheson. Defying the convention of the time, they set up a household together without marrying. At Bill's urging, Min traveled to New Jersey to help striking textile workers, but the strike was crushed after six months and Min was uncertain of her next move. They soon moved to New York City and began careers in the garment industry. Min worked in a dress factory until Bill accepted a position in Pennsylvania with the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (ILGWU). When they decided to have children, they married and Min stayed out of union affairs for a time to raise her two small children.

In 1944, the New York ILGWU asked Bill and Min to move to Northeastern Pennsylvania, where dozens of small garment factories were sprouting up. Union official asked Min and Bill "to clean up the mess down there," and within a few years, Min was General Manager of the Wyoming Valley ILGWU and Bill was the Director of Education.

During strikes, she walked the picket lines with the rank and file and stood her ground when confronted by factory bosses. Eventually, Min realized the press was a union's best friend and regularly used radio shows to bring the union's case to the attention of the public. She organized union blood drives and the union locals gave freely to the United Fund. The community began to accept and appreciate the good works of the ILGWU. At one point, Min realized the union needed to become more active in the political arena and began the strong relationship between labor and the Democratic Party in Northeastern Pennsylvania which still exists to this day.

Mr. Speaker, Min and Bill Matheson were the parents of the garment industry workforce in Northeastern Pennsylvania. They organized it, fought for it, and gave it standing in the community. Seven hundred people turned out at a farewell salute after Min and Bill accepted a transfer to New York in 1963.

Min and Bill chose to come back to the Wyoming Valley upon retirement. They moved back in 1972, a few months before the Susquehanna river overflowed her banks, flooding the entire area and devastating the lives of tens of thousands of area residents. An organizer by birthright, Min immediately helped to organize the Flood Victims Action Council to speak for those devastated by the disaster. She brought her concerns and plight of the flood victims to the immediate attention of the

federal government and worked closely with then-Congressman Dan Flood to insure relief for the thousands of displaced residents. I am proud to have worked closely with Min on that effort, acting as legal counsel to the Flood Victims Action Council. Even in retirement, Min Matheson had found a way to better the lives of her neighbors in the Wyoming Valley. She continued to contribute her time and energy to our community until her death several years ago. Then-Wilkes-Barre City Councilman Joe Williams said it best: "There should be a statue of Min on Public Square for all that she has done for this Valley."

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased and proud to join with my good friends at the ILGWU, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the entire community in paying a much over-due tribute to this beloved figure in our region's history, Mrs. Min Matheson.

CONTINUING THREATS TO THE RUSSIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues are aware, for the past year or so, the Jewish community of Russia has been subjected to anti-Semitic threats and violence. And this is not just from marginalized, thuggish elements on the streets; even elected officials in Russia have resorted to anti-Semitic slurs and threats.

Amid the latest explosions in Moscow, it is all the more remarkable that no Jewish institutions were attacked in Russia during the Jewish New Year celebration of Rosh Hashanah. Responding to the concerns of the Russian and American Jewish communities, as well as the U.S. Government and Members of Congress, the Russian authorities provided adequate protection for the synagogues, at least in the capital city, Moscow. The federal government of Russia and Moscow's city government deserve credit for this protection of their citizens. Monday's Yom Kippur celebration also passed without incident, and authorities would also be well advised to ensure that future holiday observances are accompanied by a visible and comprehensive police presence.

In the past several weeks, a Jewish community leader was violently attacked inside the Moscow Choral Synagogue, and explosives or false bomb threats have been uncovered in synagogues as well. In addition to synagogues, schools and other institutions are also at risk. The school year has now begun, and elderly Jews will again turn to social services institutions with the approach of winter. Russian authorities should be encouraged to continue protecting Jewish facilities, as well as seriously investigating and prosecuting those guilty of crimes against Jews. In addition, Russian officials should speak out frequently and publicly against those who would—either through word or deed—tear at the fabric of tolerance in Russia. To his credit, President Yeltsin has denounced "disgusting acts of anti-Semitism" in Russia, and in a telegram to the Chief Rabbi of Russia, His Holiness Patriarch Alexei II condemned the attack in the Moscow Choral Synagogue. Hopefully, these statements against violence and for tolerance

will be emulated by responsible Russian leaders throughout Russia.

As much as permitting the free exercise of religion is a duty of any government, so is the protection of those exercising that right. As we Americans have unfortunately witnessed in our own country in recent months, our Nation is not immune to anti-Semitic violence. Law enforcement cannot completely guarantee against infringement of these rights, but we have demonstrated what I believe is an appropriate model of community and official response. For instance, when synagogues in California were bombed earlier this year, the California State Legislature condemned the attacks, and the alleged perpetrators are now in custody.

The police protection of synagogues throughout Moscow, along with President Boris Yeltsin's strong message of support to the Jewish community on the eve of the Jewish High Holy Days, represent a commendable Russian step in that same direction. Effective security measures should continue as long as the Jewish community is under threat, but we hope that ultimately such measures will no longer be necessary in a stable, democratic Russia.

THANKING CHUCK RUSSELL FOR
HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE STATE OF TEXAS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30 years of service Chuck Russell has provided to the children of Texas and our great nation. At the end of this month, Chuck will retire from his position as Assistant to the Texas Education Commissioner for Government Relations. Although Chuck has enjoyed his time in Washington, I am certain that he is looking forward to going home to Texas.

Chuck has spent his career working tirelessly on behalf of all children. As a government affairs official, he worked to make education funding formulas more equitable. He facilitated discussions between the Congress, U.S. Department of Education, the White House, the Texas Education Agency and local school districts. He always promoted what was best for school children, never forgetting that they were the reason for him being here. Their best interest was his driving force.

Chuck's education experience was not limited to government affairs. He has also worked as a special education teacher in Monterey, California and as a project director for the Texas School for the Blind.

American historian and writer Henry Adams once stated that "an educator affects eternity; he can never tell when his influence stops." For Chuck Russell, the lives he has touched over his many years in the education field will ensure that his influence carries on far into the future.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of one of Texas' education heroes as Chuck Russell completes his final days as an advocate for education. Chuck, we wish you and your wife Judy all the best.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOJOURNER
TRUTH INSTITUTE IN COMMEMO-
RATION OF THE SOJOURNER
TRUTH MEMORIAL MONUMENT

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sojourner Truth Institute for their hard work and dedication to the Sojourner Truth Memorial Monument, which is being unveiled in Battle Creek, Michigan on Saturday, September 25, 1999.

Deserving recognition for this historic event are monument sculptor Tina Allen, Institute Administrator Michael Evans, Dr. Velma Laws-Clay and the entire Monument Steering Committee for the vision of turning an idea into a reality. The monument will stand to commemorate Sojourner Truth's crusade for the abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, and human rights for all.

Sojourner Truth is one of Battle Creek's greatest citizens and her impact on American history is immeasurable. She stood as a strong voice for the nation's ideals of freedom and equality at a time of great conflict. She was an abolitionist and an outspoken leader for women's rights. "Today I have the right to speak out in public and be as successful as I choose to be because she was a pioneer for the rights of women and others", said Dr. Laws-Clay.

The Sojourner Truth Institute, with the proud support of the entire Battle Creek community, will sponsor a weekend-long celebration culminating with the unveiling of sculptor Tina Allen's 12-foot tall bronze statue of Sojourner Truth in Battle Creek's new Monument Park. "The intention was to provide a place where visitors and residents of the city can learn about what she really meant to the city of Battle Creek and bring the city's history to an even larger audience. It is also a very appropriate welcome at the gateway of our city", said Michael Evans.

I wish to thank everyone involved in bringing this monument to life and continuing the legacy of Sojourner Truth, who is one of the greatest human rights activists in this nation's history. I am honored to represent a city with such character and determination. The work of the Sojourner Truth Institute will ensure that Battle Creek and America long remembers Sojourner Truth's message of freedom and I commend the Institute's vision and dedication.

CONSOLIDATION OF MILK
MARKETING ORDERS

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1402) to require the Secretary of Agriculture to implement the Class I milk price structure known as Option 1A as part of the implementation of the final rule to consolidate Federal milk marketing orders:

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1402, legislation to consolidate Federal Milk Marketing Orders. I grew up on a small, family dairy farm near Fergus Falls, Minnesota and understand how the current antiquated dairy pricing system discriminates against the family farms in the Midwest. In 1996, this Congress passed the Freedom to Farm Act, legislation that seriously affected American family farmers. Freedom to Farm has not worked out as its authors had said it would, but part of the bill called for a more market-oriented dairy pricing system. In other words, the Freedom to Farm Act encouraged the Department of Agriculture to do exactly what it has proposed: develop a pricing system that does not penalize Midwestern states.

For too long, farmers in Minnesota and other states in the Upper Midwest have suffered from unfair dairy prices. Instead of correcting this problem, H.R. 1402 forces us to remain in this regime. This bill also forces us to maintain a price support system that jeopardizes our ability to negotiate international trade agreements for agricultural products. Before we can make progress on trade issues, we must set an example by moving toward a market-oriented dairy pricing system. I encourage my colleagues to reject the old way of doing things in Washington, support regional equity in the dairy industry and vote against the legislation before us today.

TRIBUTE TO DELON HAMPTON,
PH.D., P.E.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Delon Hampton who is soon to be inaugurated President of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). His installation as president of this fine organization is historic in that Dr. Hampton will be the first African-American ever to serve in that capacity. As Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, I applaud this outstanding achievement.

It is not surprising that Dr. Hampton would be honored with such distinction. Currently he is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of his own consulting engineering, design, and construction and program management services firm, Delon Hampton & Associates, Chartered (DHA). This successful venture has been in operation for 26 years and is one of the top 360 design firms in America.

Dr. Hampton has also lent his talents to academic pursuits. He was actively involved in university teaching and research for approximately 25 years and has published over 40 papers in professional and technical journals.

In addition to his active role with the ASCE, Dr. Hampton has also been involved as an Associate Member of the Board of Governors of the American Public Transit Association (APTA). His other involvements include serving on the Board of Directors for the Greater Washington Board of Trade, as a Director for the Center for National Policy, and as a Malcolm Baldrige Award Overseer for the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Dr. Hampton's honors include being a Councillor of the National Academy of Engineering, receiving Honorary Doctorate degrees

from Purdue University and the New Jersey Institute of Technology, being selected a Distinguished Engineering Alumnus and Old Master by Purdue University, being a recipient of the Civil Engineering Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award of the University of Illinois, and being a recipient of the Edmund Friedman Professional Recognition Award and the James Laurie Prize both given by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to this outstanding civic leader and businessman. Dr. Hampton's historic selection as the first African-American president of the American Society of Engineers is a reflection of his impeccable credentials and a testament to the successes that can be achieved by minorities when they are empowered with education and opportunity. The example of excellence he exemplifies deserves the highest commendation.

INTERSTATE CLASS ACTION JURISDICTION ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1875) to amend title 28, United States Code, to allow the application of the principles of Federal diversity jurisdiction to interstate class actions:

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1875, the "Interstate Class Action Jurisdiction Act of 1999" because it contains provisions essential to preserving the reliable body of state case law that guides the governance of internal corporate affairs, most of which is developed by specialized courts in my state of Delaware. The depth and quality of this case law gives boards of directors for corporations all over the country the necessary guidance and predictability to move forward with multi-million dollar transactions according to their business judgment without the threat of courts overturning these transactions.

On July 22, 1998, the House passed H.R. 1689, the "Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act" by a vote of 340 to 83. That bill contained a non-controversial carve out, constructed with technical assistance from the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), for state class actions involving the purchase or sale of securities. Congress and the SEC recognized that the states had a well-developed body of law on the fiduciary duty of directors to disclose information to shareholders in connection with votes and investment actions, such as proxy solicitations, mergers, restructurings, exchanges and tender offers. Therefore, there was no need to remove class actions concerning these transactions from state courts to federal courts.

As originally drafted, the Class Action Jurisdiction Act failed to provide for this same protection of state expertise. In fact, it would have undone the widely accepted Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act's carve out. Furthermore, because the Class Action Jurisdiction Act federalizes a broader range of class actions, adding the Securities Litigation Uni-

form Standards Act carve out would not have been sufficient. Therefore, in cooperation with expert corporate law attorneys from both the plaintiff and defense bars, legal scholars, and Congressman GOODLATTE, I drafted an amendment to carve out class actions involving securities and internal corporate governance matters. The amendment was included in the manager's amendment when the bill was marked up in the Judiciary Committee.

Some of my colleagues have raised concerns that state corporate law issues should not be the only ones exempted from "federalization" under the Class Action Jurisdiction Act. I look forward to the debate on whether other class actions should be exempted. However, it is important to note that what makes corporate law issues unique is that there is no federal corporate law. State incorporation laws act like enabling statutes. That is, there is no law unless case law develops it. Traditionally, this law has been developed at the state level. Delaware, New York, and California particularly have large bodies of well-developed state corporate law. Given the structure of the federal court system with twelve circuit courts of appeal and the limited ability of the Supreme Court to adjudicate conflicts among the circuits, the removal of state courts from the adjudicatory process for class actions involving corporate law issues could add significant uncertainty to the resolution of issues arising under state corporate laws.

The SEC recognized this problem in its testimony concerning the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act. It stated:

Preemption of state duty of disclosure claims raises significant federalism concerns. Many state courts, particularly those in Delaware, have developed expertise and a coherent body of case law which provides guidance to companies and lends predictability to corporate transactions. In addition, the Delaware courts, in particular, are known for their ability to resolve such disputes expeditiously—in days or weeks, rather than months or years. Delay in resolving a dispute over a merger or acquisition could jeopardize completion of a multi-billion-dollar transaction. Broad preemption would diminish the value of this body of precedent and these specialized courts as a means of resolving corporate disputes.

Furthermore, a trend has begun to emulate Delaware by creating courts with jurisdiction designed to provide a forum for the resolution of disputes involving business entities with expertise and efficiency. New York and Pennsylvania have created such courts. This reflects a judgment that the coherent articulation and development of state law governing business entities is a goal to be pursued, and one best addressed by the creation of a forum with subject matter expertise in the area. Federalizing class actions involving state corporate law would only serve to fracture the development of the law, rather than leaving it in the hands of a small number of highly specialized and expert jurists, conversant with the history and current trends in the development of the law.

Mass tort product liability law is not a highly specialized area of the law requiring adjudication by judges specially trained in the subject matter. The issue of whether or not we federalize mass tort product liability suits does not jeopardize the completion of multi-billion-dollar transactions that can determine if U.S. companies will continue to compete in the global marketplace.

Mr. Chairman, I am extremely proud of the corporate law legal expertise that has developed in Delaware. It is just one of many features that makes Delaware a "Small Wonder." Members may have divided opinions on the merits of the overall legislation, but just as there was no controversy over the state corporate law carve out when the House passed the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act, there should be no controversy over the need for the corporate law carve out in this bill.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1501, JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my colleague from New York's motion to instruct.

Once again, we are standing here having to remind Republicans that protecting our children from gun violence is the most important issue we should be addressing in Congress.

And yet, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are sitting and doing nothing. We can not stand for this!

Every day that goes by that we do not act is another day a child falls victim to gun violence. How many more deaths are we going to allow before we take action?

Our children are scared and so are their parents. We cannot afford to let another child slip through the cracks.

I ask you, who's taking care of our children? Let's address this issue once and for all. Let's not sacrifice the life of another child to indecision.

IN HONOR OF HELEN KARPINSKI ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Helen Karpinski on her 100th birthday, October 7, 1999. She will be celebrating this joyous occasion with her family on October 10, 1999.

Born in 1899 in Cleveland, Ohio, Helen Karpinski has dedicated her life to government and civic service. She has actively participated in the American Polish Women's Club and has been a member of the Cleveland Cultural Garden Federation. Additionally, she has spent her life being a political activist, promoting and supporting women aspiring to public office. She helped catalyze the women's movement in government by such accomplishments as being the first woman to survive a primary election for Cleveland City Council under the current city charter. The work she has done for women in politics has been immeasurable.

At 100 years young, Helen continues to live a fulfilling and happy life. She has been a wonderful mother of three beautiful daughters, Gloria, Mercedes, and Diane. Helen is loved

by her family and the many lives in her community that she has touched. My fellow colleagues, please join me in wishing a great lady a very happy birthday and many more delightful years to come.

SUPPORTING THE ETHNIC AND MINORITY BIAS CLEARINGHOUSE ACT OF 1999

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of greater diversity in our national media. If we learned anything this past year, it is that the media has a tremendous influence in our day-to-day lives. The impact of this "Information Age" influence needs to be examined because it does not always promote accurate images. To address this important issue, I introduced H.R. 125, the "Ethnic and Minority Bias Clearinghouse Act of 1999."

While this legislation will shed a good deal of sunshine upon our media, it will not attempt to place any mandates upon broadcasters. H.R. 125 will direct the Federal Communication Commission to begin compiling data on complaints, grievances and opinions regarding radio and television broadcasters depiction of ethnic and minority groups. This information will be released to the public on a yearly basis and will be discussed in an annual conference to examine our nation's perception of the media's depiction of our great ethnic diversity.

In support of my legislation I submit for the RECORD a letter that was sent by the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) to the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences which illustrates the need for my legislation.

September 7, 1999.

MS. MERYL MARSHALL,
Chairwoman and CEO, The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, North Hollywood, CA.

DEAR MS. MARSHALL: The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) is pleased to note that a large number of Italian Americans have been nominated by The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for their contributions to primetime television.

Your September 12th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards has nominated NIAF supporters such as Stanley Tucci for Outstanding Lead Actor In A Miniseries Or Movie; Joe Mantegna for Outstanding Supporting Actor in the same category; and Tony Danza as Outstanding Guest Actor In A Drama Series. Italian Americans are also up for awards in comedy, drama, direction, editing, hairstyling, makeup, and music.

These nominations confirm the tremendous contributions that Italian Americans have made in the fields of art and entertainment. However, NIAF is greatly concerned about the amount of attention and acclaim which has been given to the Home Box Office series, "The Sopranos", and how it relentlessly focuses only on Italian Americans in organized crime.

NIAF appreciates and recognizes the acting skills and hard work of Emmy nominated performers like James Gandolfini, Lorraine Bracco, and Edie Falco, as well as the work of the rest of the cast and crew. But NIAF agrees with writer Bill Dal Cerro, who wrote in the June 20th Chicago Tribune that the show "not only exploits popular prejudice about Italian Americans, but allows the audience to giggle at such images guilt-free."

This past year has seen an open season assault by the entertainment industry on people of Italian American heritage. Whether it be a Pepsi television ad featuring a little girl speaking in an Italian American "God-father" voice, derogatory films such as Spike Lee's "Summer of Sam", or TNT's despicable "Family Values: The Mob & The Movies", your industry has reinforced the stereotype that all Italian Americans are losers, or mobsters, or both.

The stereotyping is also insidious: type in the phrase "Italian Americans" in the internet search box of HBO's parent company, Time Warner, and you get a glossary of terms from "The Sopranos" with words like "Stugots", "Ginzo gravy" and "Wonder Bread Wop." These words are offensive to Italian Americans and should not be glamorized on the world-wide web in so careless a fashion.

Clyde Haberman of the New York Times, wrote the following in a July 30th article entitled "An Ethnic Stereotype Hollywood Can't Refuse":

"In this age of correctness, other groups have managed to banish the worst stereotypes about them. How often these days do you see shuffling blacks, grasping Jews or drunken Irishmen on the screen? . . . (but) Among major ethnic groups that have formed the country's social bedrock for at least a century, Americans of Italian origin may be the last to see themselves reflected in mass culture, time and again, as nothing but a collection of losers and thugs."

A study by the Italic Studies Institute, Floral Park, New York, bears out Mr. Haberman's assertion. The Institute analyzed 735 Hollywood films that featured Italian Americans from 1931 to 1998. It found 152 films were positive and 583 were negative towards Italian Americans.

NIAF agrees with Bergen, New Jersey Assemblyman Guy Talarico, who recently said that Italy has produced some of the finest artists, scientists, athletes and other professionals. Mr. Talarico introduced a resolution condemning the film industry's negative portrayal of Italians and warned that "it is inaccurate and insensitive to insinuate that a small number of people (in organized crime) represent an entire ethnic group." Or to put it another way, Energy Secretary Frederico Pena told a conference last year that stereotyping "is the package in which racism finds a home." And if allowed to continue, Pena said "we depersonalize each other and we see not the faces of the personal stories we can all share but the face of an impersonal group."

In fact, because Hollywood has been reluctant to reduce harmful stereotyping of Italian Americans and other minorities, NIAF has given its full support to "The Ethnic and Minority Bias Clearing House Act of 1999." The bill, HR 125, sponsored by New York Congressman Eliot Engel, would create an office, probably within the Federal Communications Commission, to collect and analyze the media's portrayal of ethnic, racial and religious minorities, with an annual report on such portrayals in the industry prepared for Congress.

NIAF has begun a major effort to "Stamp Out Italian American Stereotyping," and we need the help of influential people in the entertainment community like yourself to help us achieve success.

We have enclosed NIAF's report, "Fact Sheets On Italian Americans In US History And Culture", and ask that you review it and distribute it to all members of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The 37-page document contains a listing of significant contributions Italian Americans have made to the US in such fields as politics, edu-

cation, entertainment, sports and law enforcement. Academy members who read this document, which is also available on NIAF's web site, www.niaf.org, would get a fuller representation of Italian Americans which could lead to depicting our people on television and in the movies in a more positive fashion.

We also ask that the Academy consider for next year's awards the Arts and Entertainment (A&E) film "Italians in America" and the History Channel film "Ellis Island." Both will be shown in October and both document Italian American history and achievements.

Finally, we would ask that the Academy agree to participate in an NIAF-sponsored workshop on "Italian American Stereotyping" which will take place in the second quarter of the Year 2000. Your participation will convince others in the entertainment industry that this is a problem which needs to be addressed if 20 million Americans of Italian descent, the nation's fifth largest ethnic group, are to be fairly depicted, as honest, hard-working individuals.

I have designated Dona De Sanctis, head of the NIAF's Media Institute Board, as your direct contact on these issues. Please contact her at NIAF headquarters, 1860 19th St., NW, Washington, DC, 20009, telephone: (202) 387-0600.

Sincerely,

FRANK J. GUARINI,
NIAF Chairman.

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN SCHOOL
DRUG TESTING**

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, there has been occasional controversy about drug-testing high school students.

Evidence is showing that this is the single most effective way to actually reduce drug abuse at school.

The Concordia Lutheran school system in Fort Wayne, Indiana is the largest Lutheran School system in the nation.

The following is an excellent summary of their reasons and debate around implementing a drug testing program.

I hope other school systems will show the commitment to improving the lives of their students that Concordia has.

FORT WAYNE LUTHERAN ASSOCIATION FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION,
CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL,

Fort Wayne, IN, September 21, 1999.

To The Honorable Mark Souder.

Re Substance Abuse Prevention Program
Concordia Lutheran High School.

Thank you for the opportunity to share information on our newly-instituted program of substance abuse prevention, including the requirement of random drug testing for all students and staff.

A bit of the history of this effort . . . The student surveys we have had conducted by research firms in Fort Wayne over the past 5-8 years have clearly confirmed our sense that the problem of student use of drugs and alcohol was in many ways similar to that of other schools. We have never hid from that reality, yet it was not until the spring of 1998 that we finally moved in a significant way to address and "do something" about the problem.

Two incidents of illegal use and possession were the "last straw" for us to act! Our goal was to do something about the problem, not study it. We were beyond further study.

The school administration formed a task force comprising students, staff, administrators, pastors, lawyers, professionals in the field, and officials from law enforcement. Judge Charles Pratt was also a member. The question was not, "Is there a problem?" Rather, the compelling issue was what can we do about the problem. I chaired the task force because I wanted it to do the right thing and get at the problem. I believed I had to demonstrate the commitment we had to the issue. Their interest and enthusiasm was inspiring, especially when they realized we were serious about this problem and getting at it!

The attached brochure outlines the program which was formulated over a period of six months. The Board of Directors of our Association endorsed the effort. The faculty also supported it. It was clearly apparent from the beginning that, if we wanted to do something to impact student use of illegal drugs and alcohol, random drug testing had to be a part of the program. As the professionals indicated, if you are not willing to drug test, we were wasting our time. As a task force, we crossed that hurdle and moved forward in the spring of 1999 with a proactive program of testing and ministry support when a problem occurs.

In the spring of 1999 we began a series of parent meetings at which time we shared the very real and dramatic data from the survey results. Then we outlined the plan and informed them that required random testing will begin with the 1999-2000 school year. We did not survey our parents. We knew we had a serious problem and we needed to act. Quite frankly, it would have muddled the process, resulted in political debate and parent reaction. We were convinced we were doing the right thing and all of the expertise we had totally supported the action plan! The program was built around education, prevention, and treatment [see attached brochure].

There was some opposition from parents who were really bothered by the fact that we were going to conduct random testing of all students, but we concluded that we simply had to do it. Many hours were spent talking with families who expressed concerns. We took the news to the media and made the news ourselves, having concluded that this was the best approach. As you might know, the media made a rather negative issue out of the news, focusing attention only on testing and not the overall program. Publicly it appeared that there were many who objected. Yet there were many who wrote and supported our efforts, including our own students.

I did not receive even five negative letters. Since the spring, as people have talked through the issue of testing and considered it, we have had total cooperation from families. To our knowledge, NOT ONE student did not return as a result of this issue. In fact, we lost fewer students over the summer than we normally do in an average year. Every parent signed a release form. We have had no complaint or refusal.

The procedures we put in place are carefully laid out and had the input of a variety of professionals. We take all the precautions, and more, of the DOT guidelines on testing. We have a doctor certified as a Medical Review Officer who would first review any positive tests. This takes place prior to the school ever being notified.

The testing company in Kansas City has an impeccable record and the percent chance of false positives is scientifically insignificant. We have overcome many fears as a result of

careful and thoughtful planning. That, of course, is part of our philosophy of education. The testing is conducted weekly on students whose numbers come up on the randomization computer program. It works smoothly, and most people are totally unaware that it is even taking place!

All new employees are tested as a requirement of employment. This includes a cafeteria worker as well as an administrator. We have all staff in a randomization pool and have a plan in place should a positive test arise. Both the proactive plan to assist students and the plan for staff members are based on our approach to ministry, part of what makes our education distinctive.

All of the evidence told us that testing WILL reduce the usage among students. That is our prayer and hope, and we have seen and heard evidence that it does. The goal is to deter young people from using illegal drugs and alcohol.

Finally, alcohol is a problem more difficult to test and trace. Parties continue to take place outside of school but our testing program will not impact that behavior directly. It is our hope that the overall impact of the program is also having a positive effect on other student behaviors. Only time will tell. In the mean time, our families, students and staff are dealing with the problem in a very real way. The actual testing takes place almost unnoticed during the day. It has simply become a part of our day and we like it that way. I might add that we have a registered nurse on duty every school day, all day. Our program which the clinic has put together is high impact, connecting with our guidance program. We use urine testing as our method. The current cost is \$16 per test. A courier picks up the material on its way to Kansas City!

It is public knowledge that the son of our head nurse, a good student and athlete, was one of the students arrested in May of 1998, taken away from school in handcuffs, and of course was expelled. He is back in school after one full semester away [our minimum policy] and is doing very well in school. He is a good kid who hopefully learned a huge lesson about selling marijuana! The judge asked us if he could do some of his service hours at Concordia. We agreed and he paid that price in the summer of 1998 leading into his semester away from Concordia.

I also recommended to our administrators that we move our annual Cadets In Cadence Auction out of our facility to an off-campus site. The Board of Directors supported that move, but there were many who simply did not "buy" the argument that we needed to set the example and not serve alcohol, even to adults, on our campus, even to raise money! We made a once-a-year exception and served alcohol in the building. On December 4, 1999, we have our first off-campus auction at the Coliseum . . . and we believe we can make it an even better event!

Concordia took a stand on the issue. We have "laid the issue on the kitchen table" of CLHS parents and many other families in Fort Wayne . . . and we hope some lives will be saved and some teenagers will be spared the potential tragedies which accompany the use of illegal drugs and alcohol. We want a drug-free school and want to give good kids another reason to say NO!

Thank you for your interest and allowing me to share this testimony.

Cordially,

DAVID WIDENHOFER,
Executive Director.

TREATMENT

We are compelled to provide treatment alternatives when a student is discovered to have used, be in possession of, or be a seller or provider of drugs or alcohol. The identi-

fication of those who are involved with drugs or alcohol calls for clear assessment and follow-up.

First Positive Test—A parent conference, an assessment by a state-approved drug and alcohol agency, an educational and/or counseling plan, a 12-month probationary period, follow-up testing, and applicable activity penalties are indicated.

Second Positive Test—The student is expelled. A parent conference is held to discuss assistance measures and a plan for re-entry if desired.

Student Under the Influence—The student is immediately suspended for a period of 5 school days. A parent conference, an assessment by a state-approved drug and alcohol agency, an educational and/or counseling plan, a 12-month probationary period, follow-up testing, and appropriate activity penalties are indicated.

Student Possession/Distribution or Second Under Influence—The student is expelled. A parent conference is held to discuss assistance measures and a plan for re-entry if desired.

CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION

We believe that:

All students are chosen and redeemed children of God. As parents and teachers, we have a responsibility to them. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." Proverbs 22:6.

All our hope is in the Lord. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11.

As Christians we know that we have a responsibility to take care of the life God has given us. "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. Therefore, honor God with your body." I Corinthians 6:19-20.

We also realize that in a sinful world, we must be prepared to face temptations every day of our lives. We can do this confidently as His faithful people. "God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." I Corinthians 10:13.

Lutheran schools impact the lives of young people by providing Christian values through all school activities and programs and by proclaiming God's love.

THE PROBLEM

Data provided from several research studies of high school students, including CLHS students, present a picture of the use of drugs and alcohol by our students that resembles that of other states and high schools. Our own experience with young people verifies the existence of a problem that compels a response. We are called "to minister to students as chosen and redeemed children of God." We can no longer avoid confronting head-on this reality of American culture.

Teenagers are making poor choices to use drugs and alcohol in every high school in America. As a Christ-centered high school, we must respond to this tragic reality. Our plan is founded on our sincere concern for nurturing Christian faith and healthy lifestyles in our students. We intentionally want to reduce the use of drugs and alcohol and discourage students from making poor choices. We act because we care.

Our goal is to maintain a safe, positive and zero-tolerance school environment, conducive to learning and spiritual growth for all students. We have set forth preventive measures to check the student use of alcohol and

drugs, especially on the CLHS campus and at CLHS activities. The plan includes education for staff, students and parents so that they understand the realities of the problem and are better able to identify and help students using drugs and alcohol. Our ministry to students calls for providing assistance and treatment options for students who become involved in the use of drugs and alcohol.

PREVENTION

We need consistent, fair, firm, enforceable and clear policies regarding the school's position on the illegal use of drugs and alcohol. Clear deterrents are needed so that students and adults know that we are serious about this issue and want to reduce student drug and alcohol use.

Zero Tolerance Policy—All use, possession or distribution of drugs or alcohol will have consequences. We will not tolerate those who introduce illicit drugs or alcohol into our school setting.

Tip Line—Evening calls to Student Services (471-1996) will be recorded on an answer-

ing machine to allow anonymous reporting of information about illegal activity.

Surveillance Cameras—These have been installed to observe activity in the parking lot and other high traffic areas of the school grounds.

Locker and Parking Lot Searches—Random searches involving the use of police drug dogs will occur as needed.

Random Drug Testing of Students—This is the key component that addresses the issue of usage. Urinalysis is the method used and great care is taken to ensure confidentiality of results.

Reasonable Suspicion—When reasonable suspicion of drug or alcohol use exists, a breath scan and/or urinalysis will be required.

EDUCATION

It has become clear that many students, teachers and parents do not fully understand the laws dealing drugs and alcohol, the consequences of being caught, the signs of student use of alcohol and drugs (at home and

at school), and the very real seriousness of this issue in the lives of youth and adults. We want to emphasize the seriousness of the issues being addressed, the identification of students using or under the influence, the identification of those possessing or selling drugs or alcohol at school, and the legal consequences of alcohol and drug use by adolescents and adults.

Curriculum—Drug and alcohol education is a part of the curriculum each year in high school.

Student Assemblies—At least once each year an assembly using outside resources is presented to the student body.

Staff In-Service—Education and skill-building are a regular part of the staff in-service program.

Parent Support Group—This group works with the school administration to ensure that education efforts continue for both students and parents.

Parents In-Service—At least one parent in-service activity is planned per semester.